Docket No. 448563/163 LR:LJ IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Applicants** 

: Minoru Usui et al.

Serial No.

09/312,073

Group: 2861

Filed

: May 13, 1999

Examiner: M. Nghiem

For

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**APPARATUS** 

June 21, 2001

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and 1.98 in order to comply with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56. This I.D.S. cites the art of record in Australian International Application No. SG 9902138-8 (Groups I-V) which is a counterpart to the instant case.

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed, as well as the Search Reports.

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to BOX, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on (Date) June 21, 2001

Type or printed name of person signing this certificate:

Signature:

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It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner make these citations of record in the subject application. Because this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted within three months of the mailing date of the International Search Report, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 it is aplicants' belief that no fee is due, however, if the Commissioner requires a fee, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence Rosenthal

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